



“Where Faith and Life Connect”

The Order of Worship

January 1, 2017
11:00 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshipping here with the goal of connecting faith and life. If you are a visitor, we pray you will feel welcome and blessed by our worship. We invite you to consider making Westminster your church home. Please let us have your contact information so we may be in touch.

Children are welcome in worship here. A nursery is available during the entire service. Any who are baptized are invited to receive the elements of the Lord’s Supper.

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

PRELUDE Das alte Jahr vergangen ist, BWV 614 J. S. Bach
The Old Year Has Passed Away
(from the *Orgelbüchlein*)

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP *excerpted from John, Titus and Psalm 148*

Leader: The bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

People: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

Leader: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

People: Praise him, all his angels; praise him all his host!

Leader: Young men and women alike, old and young together!

People: Praise the Lord!

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

*HYMN NO. 22 (blue hymnal) Angels, from the Realms of Glory *Regent Square*

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

O God, whose love is unfailing and whose mercies are new every morning, in this house of prayer hallowed for us by your presence, we lift up our souls. Grant to each one of us what you have made us to long for – cleansing from selfishness and sin, release from anxiety and fear, a life tuned to finer issues and saved from futility by its devotion to goodness, to others and to you. As in penitence we come in this new year, bless us with the gift of a fresh start. Let our forgiven lives declare your praise by all that we are and do.

*KYRIE ELEISON Healey Willan

(Congregation singing—music is found on the inside cover of the red hymnal)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

(First part: women; second: men; third: all)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*RESPONSE

Refrain from Hymn No. 116 (red hymnal) Angels We Have Heard on High
Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

TO EXPERIENCE GOD’S WORD AND RESPOND ...

PROPHECY Isaiah 63:7-9

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Ellen Anderson

Children age 4 through 2nd grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in

Children’s Worship.

EPISTLE Hebrews 2:10-18

SERMON “Leon’s Wilderness” Rev. John Linton Muntz

“I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord...” – Isaiah 63:7

*HYMN NO. 63 (blue hymnal) As With Gladness Men of Old *Dix*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

We believe that in Jesus Christ God was reconciling the world to himself. Jesus is God with us. In him true humanity was realized for all. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people. He is present in the church by the Holy Spirit to continue and complete the work of reconciliation. This work of God is the foundation of our faith concerning God and the world. The gift of God in Christ is for all people, therefore we affirm that we are called to be reconciled to God and to one another.

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY Variation III David P. Dahl

(from Variations for Organ on “Dix”)

*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal) *Tallis’ Canon*
(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS NO. 553 (red hymnal) John Merbecke

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, Heaven and earth are full of thy glory:

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

SHARING THE SACRAMENT

Beginning from the front of the sanctuary, the congregation will be ushered to the Table. Return to your pew by the side aisle. Service will be brought to any who are unable to come forward.

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION Jesu, meine Freude Michael Beyer

Jesu, My Joy

PRAYER AFTER THE TABLE

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: And all that is within me, bless God’s holy name.

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: And forget not all his benefits.

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586 (blue hymnal) Amen

Danish melody

*POSTLUDE In dir ist Freude

Marcel Dupré

In Thee Is Joy

Today’s prayer of confession was written by Pastor Emeritus Fritz Schilling and used previously at Westminster Church.

*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Terry Crow and Jay Schmid
LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

PLEASE place your bulletin into a blue recycling bin located at the Narthex door if you do not care to take it home.

SERVING TODAY

ACOLYTES: Hannah Mathews and Anna Grace Gilbert

GREETERS: Chip and Pat Herzog

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP: Nursery Staff

SENIOR USHER: Hap McSween

USHERS: Linda Van Beke, Emily and Wiley Wright, Ann Allison-Coté, Susan Baughman

Children are always welcome in our worship services! A nursery for newborns up to 5 years of age is provided in the Children’s education wing by trained, caring staff each week as a part of our ministry to children and their families. Please ask a greeter or usher for assistance.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL collection is today. We bring this offering each “First Sunday,” as our share in maintaining the Volunteer Ministry Center of Knoxville. The average monthly cost to serve breakfast and lunch is \$275. Your support is greatly appreciated!

NAME TAG SUNDAY is today. Please fill out a name tag in the Narthex.

THE ABBEY DEADLINE is today. Please send your announcements and articles to unitedprinters@comcast.net.

WE RETURN TO OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE next Sunday, with worship at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be open Tuesday, January 3 at 9:00 a.m.

VISIT FROM ONE OF THE PC(USA) CO-MODERATORS: Westminster will welcome the Rev. Jan Edmiston January 28th and 29th. We will host an informal town hall/potluck supper Saturday evening, and she will preach at both services Sunday morning. She will meet with students at UKirk at the University of Tennessee at lunch on Monday.

Rev. Edmiston attended Andover-Newton Theological School in Newton-Centre, Massachusetts and was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. She currently serves as Associate Executive Presbyter for Ministry at the Presbytery of Chicago, and was elected Co-Moderator (with the Rev. Denise Anderson) of the 222nd General Assembly in Portland in June of 2016.

Throughout her parish ministry years, she served as moderator of the social justice committee (Albany Presbytery) and personnel committee (National Capital Presbytery), as well as taking leadership roles in the areas of church revitalization, new church development, and presbytery council in both presbyteries.

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

Angela Grobe, Director of Children’s Ministries

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Sandra Williams, Administrative Assistant

Rev. Friedrich Schilling, Jr., Pastor Emeritus

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: There are some great adult Sunday school classes coming up. Phil and Judy Barnette will lead a study on Mike Slaughter’s book, *Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus*, The class will meet in the McKinnon Room. This is in addition to our regular (but extraordinary) Bible study class meeting in the library and “The Wired Word,” which meets in the Prayer Room. Look forward to a class starting at the end of January. We’ll look at Mental Health and how the church community responds, with Michael Yates, Kristi Gordon, and Sandra Rowcliffe.

THE SESSION

Class of 2017

Phil Barnette
Bitsy Ingram
William Milam
Bryan Powell
Brenda Seip
Youth Elder: Tolson Bell
Clerk of Session: Georgann Byerley

Class of 2018

Leigh Dunlap
JP Mackay
Linda Van Beke
Wes Williams
Michael Yates

Class of 2019

Debbie Babelay
Daniel Collins
Terry Crow
Cindy Pearman
Jay Schmid

TRUSTEES

Larry Ridley

Paul Jorden

Alice Mercer